

The Elisa Era

Tuesday May 30, 2000

7:00 p.m.

Rooftop School, San Francisco, CA

The unique and splendid musical plays in which were the hallmark of the Rooftop experience have become synonymous with the name of Elisa Elliott over the years. No single commemorative can fully reward Elisa for her caring generosity, her rich talent and her unstinting devotion to excellence in the arts. This evening's program is simply an expression of heartfelt thanks from all who have been privileged to be touched by her work.



Introductory Comments

Opening and Welcome.....	Nancy Mayeda
Presentation to Elisa.....	Present and Past Students of Rooftop
Glimpses from the Past.....	Selected Videos
Retrospective Video.....	Barbara Klutinis
Memories of Elisa.....	Former Students
A Story Teller's Memory.....	Olive Hackett O' Shaugnessy
More Memories of Elisa.....	Friends and Colleagues
A Musical Moment (or Two).....	Group Singing

Special Presentations and Closing

Refreshments

During the first decade of its existence, Rooftop In Performance presented musicals that were performed by students Grades 3 through 5 and written in the classroom under the supervision of parent volunteers. Elisa pioneered the writing process, and coordinated and directed all of these shows except for "What's Wrong, King Kong?" presented in 1985 which she produced for director by Linda Ayres-Frederic. The series included: "Amazing Space, the Search for Rooftop School" 1986; "Danger on a Summer Cruise" 1987; "Abracadabra" 1988; "Trouble in the Forest" 1989; "1, 2, 3 Let's Invent" 1990; "Amazing Space: The Play Within a Play" 1991; "Little Detectives" 1992; "The Lightning Stone" 1993; "The Bus Fuss" 1994; and "Rooftop is a Feeling: A Ten Year Retrospective" 1995.

School-wide plays came to an end in 1995 but Rooftop in Performance continued to evolve. In collaboration with choreographer Pam Wong, Elisa developed classroom programs which suited the needs of the growing school population. She encouraged teachers to produce with her, located and developed scripts and initiated movement and theater games presentations. Since 1995, over thirty separate plays or events have been mounted by individual classes at all grade levels from Kindergarten through Fifth under Elisa's leadership.



Rooftop in Performance Classroom Plays and Events/ 1995--2000

1995

Ground Breaking Ceremony for Mayeda Campus

All School Production

1996

"Penguins" "African Dances"
"The Little Red Hen" "Lion and the Mouse"
"Bossy Gallito"
"The Dreamers"

First Grades
Second Grade (Puppetry by Christina Flores)
Second Grade
Third Grades

1996 (Cont.)

'Dear Arabella' * /'Days of 49' **
"Way Back When" (Original Play)

Fourth Grades
Fifth Grade

1997

Theatre Games
Dedication of Mayeda Campus
"Bossy Gallito," " Magic Amber,"
"Talk, Talk"
"Earth Green"
"The Camping Play"
"Brother Eagle, Sister Sky"

First and Fifth Grades
All School Production

Second Grades
Third Grades

Fourth Grades

1998

"Circus" ***
Theater Games

Kindergarten
First and Fifth Grades

"A Promise is A Promise"
"Lion and Mouse" " Little Red Hen"
"Talk Talk"
"The Dreamers"
"Dear Arabella"*/'Days of '49**

Second Grades
Third Grades
Fourth Grades

1999

"Circus" ***
Multi-Cultural Dance
And Creative Movement ***
"Traffic in the Forest"
"Why Bears No Longer Talk"
"Special Kind of Gold"/'Maria's Birthday"
Theatre Games

Kindergarten

First and Second Grades
Third Grades
Third Grades
Fourth Grades
Fifth Grades

2000

"Circus" ***
Multi-Cultural Dance
And Creative Movement ***
"The Dreamers"
"Dear Arabella"*/'Days of '49**
Theatre Games

Kindergarten

First Grades
Third Grades
Fourth Grades
Fifth Grades

* Written In Piedmont by Dorothy Falarski with Peggy Lawrence's Fourth Grade

** Written by Mary Ann Benson, Elementary Music Teacher, Piedmont Schools

*** Created and Directed by Pam Wong



This event was lovingly coordinated by Roger Bruno, Dorothy Falarski, Barbara Klutinis, Nancy Mayeda, Cyndy Sugawara, Catherine Palmer and Pam Wong and Joyce Woo. They, in turn, thank the many supporters of Rooftop in Performance for their help with tonight's event and for their support over the years.

Special thanks to Rooftop Principal Richard Curci, Assistant Principal Brenda Ow Wong and to Custodian Khi Luu, for their kind assistance and support

